

CBMS SESSION

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COMMENTS ON THE STUDY ON DETERMINANTS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR MARKET TRANSITIONS OF THE YOUTH IN BOTSWANA

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Introduction

- Major Conclusions of the Study
- Policy Implications
- Policy Reaction to the Study
- Conclusion

Major Conclusions from the Study

Conclusions from the Study indicate that:

- **Gender:** males, have higher probabilities of remaining employed or moving from unemployment state to employment than females.
- **Age:** older youth have higher probabilities of remaining in the employment state, or moving from unemployment to employment, compared to the younger youth.
- **Wage:** youths with higher cash wages and who participated in the government labour market programmes faced higher probabilities of remaining in employment, or movement from unemployment state to employment, as compared to those with lower wages or did not participate in the government programmes.
- **Education:** education has no effect on the transition from unemployment to employment.

WORLD BANK ANALYSIS

The World Bank Analysis concluded that:

■ **Gender:**

- Women are much less likely to be employed than men
- High rates of women are available and actively searching for employment
- Women are more likely to be in paid employment (not in business) than men
- Women are much more likely to be in services than men

■ **Youth:**

- Youth are much less likely to be employed than non-youth
- Youth are more likely to be in paid employment than non-youth
- Youth are less likely to be engaged in agriculture than non-youth
- Youth are more likely to be underemployed
- Youth are much more likely to be unemployed ...especially poor youth, who are available and actively searching

WORLD BANK ANALYSIS CONT'D

- **Education:**
- More than a quarter of non-poor youth who are unemployed have a university degree or higher
- **Disability**
- Disability burden is higher for younger age cohorts among the working age
- Disabled individuals are much more likely to be economically inactive

Botswana Multi Topic Household Survey Report of 2015/16.

The BMTHS indicates that:

- 25.1% of the youth were unemployed compared to 23.1% in the CBMS data analysis.
- More females were unemployed 26.5% compare to males 23.5%
- Most unemployed youth were the younger ones:18 -19, 48.1%; 20-24 37.3%
- Education: the most affected were those with secondary education with 42.1% and those with University at 28.1%.
- Unemployment was more prominent in Urban Villages 51.4% than Cities 21.4%, Rural villages 27.2%

Policy Implications	Suggested Policy Issues	Policy Interventions
	Increase enrolment in pre-primary education given its current low level.	Government has increased enrolments of pre-schools in Primary Schools. Out of a total of 755 schools 597 schools have started pre-school classes during the past 2 years.
	Targeting and efficiency of government programmes towards poverty/ youth unemployment	This is an area that requires policy intervention to improve efficiency
	There is need to increase access to electricity and renewable solar energy especially in the rural and remote areas.	Government continue to extend connectivity to rural villages
	There is need for the country to deal effectively with hunger and malnutrition in order for the country to meet its national and SDG targets.	<p>To deal with hunger some programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provision of food rations under the destitution programme ▪ Provision of the supplementary school feeding to all primary schools ▪ Provision of food rations for vulnerable groups (Under 5's, TB Outpatients, medically selected lactating and expectant mothers) ▪ Provision of basic food relief packages in hard hit eras ▪ Ipelegeng program as a stop gap measure to provide income for unskilled who are not employed for food security
	Programmes designed for the youth such as Youth Development Fund (YDF) are not accessed by the youth which calls for an urgent policy issue.	The YDF is being reviewed to ensure accessibility and sustainability. The program contributes towards employment creation. There are other programmes that targets the youth such as CEDA, LEA, Government's Poverty Eradication Initiative - (ISPAAD), (LIMID):
	Improve Government's labour market programmes that equip the youth with work experience (e.g., NIP and GVS) to facilitate the transition from school to the workplace	Improvement continue to be made under the National Internship Programme and Graduate Volunteers Scheme to ease and enable absorption into the labour market
	Training institutions to involve industry to design education and training programmes that will provide the youth with the skills needed in the labour market.	Government through the Human Resource Development Council continue to develop Sector Plans with industry aimed at matching of skills and the labour market. This is complemented by the development of tertiary institutional plans and promotion of work place learning.

POLICY REACTION

Major Policy Thrusts:

- Economic transformation strategy towards a knowledge based economy.
- Improvement in skills development, use of information and technology, research and innovation.
- promote entrepreneurship development as a means to creating employment and diversifying economic base
- Leadership development towards transformation
- The Youth Development Fund is also being reviewed to improve accessibility and the success rate

CONCLUSION

- The Study provides a platform and an opportunity to reflect on policy direction to address the concerns around unemployment particularly for the youth
- The conclusions are also consistent with the national statistics
- The Study (methodology) should be extended to other areas.
- The CBMS provides data sources that could be used for monitoring and evaluation for policy advice (SDGs)